

The SHEPPARD SENATOR

Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas, home of the 82nd Training Wing and 80th Flying Training Wing

In the news

Chris Cagle to perform

Country music sensation Chris Cagle will have a concert for Sheppard personnel Wednesday at 7 p.m. near the Self-Help Store between Avenues D and C.

Cagle canceled his Open House concert in June because of bad weather.

For more information, see page 13.

Happy Birthday Air Force

The Air Force celebrates its 56th birthday Thursday.

The "Birthday Bash" Committee has planned a day to remember "100 Years of Flight."

The celebration begins at 3 p.m. with a sweet n' tasty cake-cutting ceremony at the new Heritage Center followed by an interesting documentary on the history of the Air Force and Sheppard.

The day culminates with a banquet at the community center with cocktails at 6 p.m. and a buffet at 7 p.m.

Tickets for the banquet will be available beginning Monday. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Larry Moore at 6-3331 or Master Sgt. Dinah Moore 6-8092.

Retiree to be held Sept. 20

The annual Retiree Appreciation Day will be held Sept. 20 at the Heritage Center.

This year's event is scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. and all retirees from each military branch are invited to participate.

General to hold video townhall meeting

Brig. Gen. Arthur Rooney, 82nd Training Wing commander, will hold a live "State of the Base Address" from his office Sept. 25 at 7 p.m. on Team Sheppard TV 14.

Sheppard personnel can call in and ask the general questions. Individuals can also send e-mails to tstv@sheppard.af.mil.

Successes born in tragedy

By Mr. John Ingle

Base public communication

Col. Joseph Seawell stood atop a high-rise apartment in the Crystal City section of Arlington, Va., two years ago.

Feelings of disbelief and surrealism fell over the colonel as he watched towers of black smoke and billows of fire rise from the wounded side of the Pentagon Sept. 11, 2001. A gaping wound in the side – coincidentally the same side as Arlington National Cemetery – was almost like a scene from a movie, he said.

Colonel Seawell, now commander of the 82nd Training Group, shared his experiences on that fateful day during a memorial service Thursday in the base theater.

"We initially thought it was a bomb," the commander said. "Who would've thought someone would drive a plane into the Pentagon?"

Moments before the Pentagon was attacked, Colonel Seawell recalled getting a phone call from his wife, Linda, after Flight 11 slammed into the first tower of the World Trade Center in New York. Most dismissed the event as an accident until Flight 175 hit the next tower.

Colonel Seawell received another call from his wife.

"At that point, I said, 'we're under attack. We are clearly under attack,'" he said.

Work in the Pentagon resumed as usual, at least for Colonel Seawell. He said the conversation he was having prior to his wife's phone calls continued.

Someone in his office even made the comment, "good thing we're in the Pentagon. It would be impossible to attack," Colonel Seawell recalled.

But the impossible became possible when Flight 77 hit the Pentagon.

Military, Department of Defense and civilian employees began to flow out of



Photo by Staff Sgt. Gary Coppage

Smoke plumes rise from the gaping hole in the Pentagon after it was struck by a hijacked airliner. Col. Joseph Seawell, 82nd Training Group commander, was working to the right of the crash site about two-thirds down the wing at the time of the crash.

the building. The colonel said some civilian employees were in a state of shock and panic.

That's when Colonel Seawell said he witnessed the first positive from the tragedy.

As panicking civilians clambered down the stairwells, years of fire and exercise drills began to pay off for personnel in uniforms.

"(For) us military types, it was as if it was a fire drill – no panic," Colonel Seawell said. "What struck home was our training actually works."

After evacuating to a friend's nearby apartment complex, he said he and others who have worked in the aircraft maintenance field could smell the burning JP-8

fuel from the aircraft turned assassin's tool.

Another encouraging aspect that most don't think about was also seen on the day the heart of the military was struck. Colonel Seawell said the commitment to protect from those who don a military uniform was seen.

Even though the Pentagon had just been hit and civilian and military personnel had been killed or injured, Colonel Seawell said his thoughts were of the passengers on the plane.

"What bothered us the most were the poor people in the aircraft," the colonel said. "They didn't sign on for this."

See SEAWELL, Page 14



Team Sheppard Training 2003



82nd Training Wing: 53,550 students trained to replenish America's combat capability

80th Flying Training Wing: 128 combat pilots trained for the NATO Alliance





Photo by Mr. Mike McKito

Brig. Gen. Arthur Rooney Jr., 82nd Training Wing commander, presents the Chiefs and Eagles 2003 Softball Championship Trophy to 82nd TRW Command Chief Master Sgt. Lupe Ruiz as Mr. Jim Hale, 82nd Services Division chief looks on.

Leadership discusses birthday

By Dr. James Roche and Gen. John Jumper

Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force

In 56 years, the U.S. Air Force has earned its wings as the world's greatest air and space force. Our airmen and our technology are the best our nation have to offer, an achievement that flows from the contributions of every airman — whether active, guard, reserve, civilian or retired.

On Sept. 18, the anniversary of our creation, remember

that through your integrity, selfless service and incomparable excellence, Americans find strength and confidence in the Air Force's ability to answer our nation's call, no matter when or where we're needed.

We celebrate the Air Force's birthday as we continue to support Operation Iraqi Freedom. Your tireless commitment, agility and professionalism are the foundation for integrating air and space power into a successful joint and coalition combat operation — one that has already crushed a tyrannical regime and is now helping to blaze the trail of freedom for millions in Iraq.

Yet, as we celebrate, we recognize that this success is not without costs. We appreciate you and your families' extraordinary sacrifices. Let's take this special occasion to remember the airmen who

made the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the security of America and the opportunity of freedom for those who have never before tasted liberty.

The Air Force's legacy has soared in its short history and greater opportunities are on the horizon — opportunities you'll meet with the same courage, commitment and confidence that define our first 56 years. America is proud of our Air Force, and Americans are proud of you. Happy Birthday!



Gen. John Jumper



Dr. James Roche

Action Line 6-2000,
action.line@sheppard.af.mil

The 82nd Training Wing's Action Line is your direct line to me for any concerns and suggestions you have.

I am personally involved in every reply, and I am committed to making Sheppard Air Force Base a better place to live, work and play.

Before you call the Action Line, however, I ask that you give your chain of command or other base agencies an opportunity to work your concerns. If you still do not receive a satisfactory response, call me at 6-2000, or send an e-mail to

action.line@sheppard.af.mil. Please include your name and telephone number.

Those concerns with a wide impact at Sheppard may be published in *The Sheppard Senator*.

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Hispanic Heritage Month kicks off Monday

Hispanic Heritage Month will kick off its national celebration with a prayer breakfast at the new Solid Rock Cafe Monday from 7 to 8 a.m.

The guest speaker for the event will be Maj. Michael Gutierrez from the 381st Training Squadron. The point of contact for the event is Master Sgt. Ricardo Ramirez at 6-5432.

The month-long celebration will close at the officers club Oct. 15 with a luncheon featuring the Dallas salsa and merengue dance group, Sandunga. Tickets for the event are currently for sale.

The guest speaker for the event will be Chief Master Sgt. Delia Cogar from the 82nd Mission Support Group. For more information about the event, contact Chief Cogar at 6-5228 or Staff Sgt. Jorge Flores at 6-8144.

Other Hispanic Heritage Month events at Sheppard are:
■Cultural reading at Sheppard Elementary Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. The point of contact is the school principal.

■Taste of Culture at the Base Exchange Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be traditional Latin foods donated by Hispanic Heritage Committee members and local restaurants.

■Latin dance night at the officers club Nov. 1 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. A Latin band, Tropical Sound, will play at the event. For more information, call Sergeant Flores at 6-8144.



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Brig. Gen. Arthur Rooney Jr.
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Tech Expo 2003 coming to base in October

By 1st Lt. Laura Renner

Base public communication

As everyone knows, the worst part of buying a computer, or any electronic equipment for that matter, is that six months later, it's outdated. Doesn't that stink?

The Sheppard Technology Expo comes on the flip side of that coin. With an entire year of technological innovations in the past, the Sheppard Tech Expo, scheduled to be held Oct. 9, promises to bring new equipment and ideas to anyone who wants to know.

Sheppard hosted its first tech expo in October 2002. A tech expo allows people to share ideas about using technology. In Sheppard's case, the tech expo gives instructors a chance to find new ways to better reach their students and other permanent party members a chance to make their work in the office more effective.

It also gives organizations like the 982nd Maintenance

Squadron Trainer Development Flight, or Trainer Fab, and instructional technology units, which develops interactive courseware, a chance to advertise its capabilities to instructors.

For 2002's expo, each of the four training groups, along with Trainer Fab, displayed the technology they use in the classroom. Some of their examples included monitors displaying 3-D; Classroom 2005; interactive courseware; "Sim Man," a mannequin with computer-controlled real life characteristics; and wearable ultrasound.

Technological corporations from off base set up booths to show what they had developed and to share ideas as well. These booths included simulators, transferring information via infrared as opposed to cumbersome wires, and printers that made 3-D objects.

The organizers of this year's expo plan to take the first expo's success and run with it.

"Last year's tech expo was the most successful first-time show Advanced Technology Council, Inc., an organization that presents tech expos to military installations around the country, said they were ever associated with," said Gina Johnson, the expo's project manager. "We want to make it bigger and better this year."

Along with the training groups and Trainer Fab, the Navy will have a booth showing its training technology. A combined booth showcasing the Logistics Officer Association conference and the DoD Maintenance Symposium will also be on display.

Another addition to last year's expo will be the 82nd Communication Squadron's booth showing its unique role of providing support to the training environment as a partnering of combined strengths. Check out future issues of the *Sheppard Senator* for more details on these new booths.



Photo provided by the 361st Training Squadron

An 361st Training Squadron student uses a remote wireless laptop during class instead of bulky technical orders. The laptops are one of the advancements in technology that has streamlined the training process at Sheppard.

Sheppard to honor POWs, those who are still missing in action

A 27-year-old Air Force pilot was flying his 65th mission in an RF-4C over the skies of North Vietnam in 1966.

This mission was no different than the previous 64. That is, until he was shot down 25 miles north of Hanoi, Vietnam, and held prisoner for almost seven years.

Retired, Col. Leroy Stutz will share his experience as a Prisoner of War Sept. 19 when he is honored during the National POW/MIA Recognition Day.

The day's events will include a parade, a flyover by the 80th Flying Training Wing and a ceremony to remember all prisoners of war and servicemembers who are missing in action.

The parade will begin at 8 a.m. at the parade ground and will have a multi-service color guard. Colonel Stutz will be the reviewing official at the parade.

A ceremony to present the multi-service POW Table will immediately follow the parade at the community center at 9:15 a.m. Colonel Stutz will be the guest speaker at the ceremony.

The following is an abbreviated biography of Colonel Stutz's career:

Colonel Stutz was born Nov. 13, 1939, in Effingham, Kan., and graduated from Atchison County Community High School in 1957. He attended Washburn University in Topeka, Kan., for one year before entering the Air Force Academy where he received a bachelor's degree in military science in June 1964.

He earned a master's degree in public administration from Golden Gate University, San Francisco, Calif., in June 1983.

Colonel Stutz enlisted in the Kansas Army National Guard in January 1957 and entered the Air Force Academy in June 1960. Upon graduation he was assigned to undergraduate pilot training at Craig Air Force Base, Ala.

He was assigned to Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., in 1965 as a pilot in the RF-4C aircraft. In July 1966 his squadron deployed to Thailand where he flew 85 combat missions, 65 of which were in North Vietnam.

In December 1966, his aircraft was shot down 25 miles north of Hanoi, North Vietnam. The colonel was cap-

tured and remained a prisoner of war until his release March 4, 1973.

His first assignment following release from North Vietnam was to the Air Force Academy, where he served as a group executive officer, an air officer commanding of the second cadet squadron and the executive to the commandant as officer advisor to the Cadet Honor and Ethics Committees.

In September 1978, Colonel Stutz was assigned to MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., where he served as officer in charge of the 61st Aircraft Maintenance Unit, maintenance supervisor and later commander of the 56th Aircraft Generation Squadron and as the assistant deputy commander for maintenance.

After completing Air War College in

May 1985, he returned to MacDill and became the deputy commander for maintenance, 56th Tactical Training Wing.

In December 1987, Colonel Stutz became the deputy commander for maintenance, 552nd Airborne Warning and Control Wing, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla.

Colonel Stutz was assigned again to Chanhut from 1990 to 1992 as the vice wing commander and the chief of the operations division, 3330th Technical Training Wing and in February 1992 he became the commander of the 3360th Technical Training Group. He assumed command of the Training Wing in Nov 1992.

Colonel Stutz retired from the Air Force June 30, 1994, with over 33 years of service. He and his wife, Karen, moved to Oklahoma City upon his retirement.

His military decorations include the Silver Star with one oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star with one oak leaf cluster and "V" device, Purple Heart with one oak leaf cluster, POW Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters, and the Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters.

Colonel Stutz is married to the former Karen Keirns of Cummings, Kan. They have one son, Brian, and three grandchildren, Aaron, Austin, and Aimee.

Schedule of events

Flag Vigil

■6 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., open to all Sheppard personnel

■10-minute shifts

■Col. Darrel Sims and Lt. Col. Margaret Beatty to hold vigil

■Brig. Gen. Arthur Rooney and Chief Master Sgt. Lupe Ruiz to hold vigil

■Contact Master Sgt. William Muse at 6-3881 to fill a slot

Parade

■Begins at 8 a.m.

■Col. (ret.) Leroy Stutz, reviewing official

■Flyover by 80th Flying Training Wing

Reception

■Begins at 9:15 a.m. in the community center

■Multi-service POW Table presentation and flag folding ceremony

■Col. (ret.) Leroy Stutz, guest speaker

Sheppard greets Kazakhstanis

Foreign officer
cites many similarities in training

By 2nd Lt. Ellen Harr

Base public communication

A delegation from Kazakhstan recently visited Sheppard to learn more about pilot training, the Air Force and the cooperation between NATO allies in the integrated command structure.

The Kazakhstan military has been working with the United States to combat terrorism since the war on terrorism began. The U.S. State Department invited the group to visit to help build ties with Kazakhstan, a nation of 16.7 million people that is located in Central Asia, northwest of China. The group arrived at Sheppard Sept. 7 and departed Wednesday.

Col. Alexander Sorokin, commander of Kazakhstan's Air Force, explained the group's goal is to learn about the unique training at the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training program.

"We want to familiarize ourselves with the training the pilots go through for NATO," Colonel Sorokin said. "If we come across something we



Photos by Ms. Sandy Wassenmiller

Members of a Kazakhstan delegation check out the flight deck of a static display trainer during a visit to Sheppard Sept. 7-10. The delegation was looking at the way pilots are trained in the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training program.

find useful, we will put it to use back home. And of course we would like to invite the pilots to come see us and see how we train our pilots."

The partnership between the United States and Kazakhstan in the war against terrorism is an important factor in their visit as well.

"So we have now common goals, common aims. We're fighting together against terrorism; the days of the Warsaw Pact are over," Colonel Sorokin explained.

He also expressed his gratitude for the hospitality shown to the delegation throughout their visit to the United States.

"I'm ecstatic about the degree of hospitality and the attention that has been devoted to us. We've already visited the Air Force Academy and now we're here," Colonel Sorokin said.

During their visit, the group toured the base and studied the training philosophy ENJJPT uses to train pilots for NATO.

"What we've seen is that we have different philosophies (of training). We're using the old Soviet system and philosophy, so there are differences in our philosophies. But if you take it overall, in very broad generalities, you can say that we are very close in the way we approach our training," Colonel Sorokin observed.

Colonel Sorokin explained that the pace of training is the main difference between pilot training in his country and in the United States. In Kazakhstan, pilots are placed in extremely challenging conditions much earlier in their training.

"We can call it the process of survival, what our pilots go through. If he's not successful, if he has some problems, then we part company very quickly," Colonel Sorokin said. "We don't give him second chances."

Gen. Hopper to visit Sheppard Thursday

Lt. Gen. John D. Hopper Jr., Air Education and Training Command vice commander, will be the guest speaker at the local Gen. Charles L. Donnelly Jr. Air Force Association Chapter luncheon Thursday.

All AFA members, community partners and anyone interested in learning more about the AFA and what it's doing to support our Air Force are welcome to attend. The luncheon will be at the Sheppard officers club at 11:30 a.m.

Community partners or other off-base patrons interested in attending can contact one of the AFA representatives below by Monday for base access in order to attend the luncheon.

The following are the points of contact for the luncheon:

- Maj. Cliff Altizer, 6-3490.
- Maj. John Gorla, 6-5147.
- Lt. Col. Jeff Snell, 6-2065.
- Lt. Col. Monty Deihl, 6-2414.

A-76 preliminary planning comes to Sheppard

By Mr. Sam Graham

Competitive Sourcing Office Director

September 2003 marks the beginning of a significant event for Team Sheppard employees who perform base operating support services for the 82nd Mission Support Group and its subordinate units.

Preliminary planning for a potential cost comparison study conducted in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 will begin.

When Team Sheppard employees hear A-76, they tend to fear the worst. During our recent town hall meeting, employees were told what to expect in the next few months. The purpose of this article is to tell Team Sheppard employees who missed the meeting what to expect.

First, it's important to know that preliminary planning is just that. The 82nd Training Wing Competitive Sourcing Office will conduct preliminary planning in preparation for a potential standard

cost comparison of approximately 495 appropriated fund and military positions and an additional number of contract jobs this month. This will last about 120 days.

A decision will be made at the end of the year as to whether or not to conduct the cost comparison. If a decision is made to conduct a cost comparison, a public announcement of this comparison would likely take place in January 2004.

The sourcing office would have a maximum of eighteen months to write a statement of work and produce a government bid for comparison with other interested contractors.

When the formal comparison is completed the government will make another announcement on who will do the work in the future. Based on the facts as we know them today, if a cost comparison is accomplished, a performance decision should be made to award the work to the government's most efficient organization or a commercial service provider in July

2005. A transition phase would begin and the change over would take place no later than October 2006.

The most frequently asked question about preliminary planning is what to expect in the next 120 days. In the next few months, expect visits from the manpower office and preliminary planning consultants. They will be conducting work center interviews, gathering cost data and making sure that processes are in place to capture workload data.

They will also categorize our base operating support activities into commercial service areas and define the manpower positions that will be part of the cost comparison.

At the end of the study, a cost comparison recommendation will be made by the 82nd TRW. Air Education and Training Command will then decide whether or not to conduct a standard cost comparison.

The focus of preliminary planning will be positions classified as commercial

activities in the 82nd Services Division and the 82nd Civil Engineers, 82nd Communication, 82nd Logistics Readiness and 82nd Mission Support squadrons.

During the preliminary planning process there will be several ways to ask questions individuals might have about the process. The A-76 website is up and running and is located at: <http://webi.sheppard.af.mil/a76> for on-base users and <http://www.sheppard.af.mil/a76> for the general public.

The telephone hotline is 6-2555. Callers can leave anonymous questions. Answers will be posted on the website. Personnel can also e-mail questions to a76@sheppard.af.mil. We will continue to hold town hall meetings and write articles as needed to get the news to the work force.

The competitive sourcing office is committed to keeping personnel informed.

Daycare available to give parents a break

The Give Parents a Break program is offered the third Saturday of each month at the Child Development Center located in Bldg. 195 from 6-11 p.m.

Children between the ages of 6 weeks to 5 years old are cared for in a safe and healthy environment by qualified caregivers. Reservations are accepted two weeks in advance. Certificates of care are required.

Referrals to this program must be made by one of the following officials: commanders or first sergeant, family advocacy personnel, chaplains, child development center personnel or family support personnel.

Pre-enrollment forms along with your child's immunization records and physical are required. Call 6-2038 for additional information

Protestant Youth of the Chapel Roundup scheduled

All youth between the 6th and 12th grades are invited to the south chapel from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 14 to attend the annual Protestant Youth of the Chapel Roundup.

This season's camp will be full of unforgettable experiences and activities. Every outreach project, every

skit, every informal group meeting are designed to provide a fun, safe, challenging, healthy environment where spiritual growth is certain to occur.

Our desire is to see young people grow in faith.

Parents please encourage your youth to attend.

Protestant Sunday School to begin

Welcome back to Sunday School Protestant Sunday School will start Sept. 14 at 9 a.m. in the Religious Education Building on 9th and I avenues.

Age groups Pre-K through adults can join us for a fun filled and adventurous year. Let us teach you how to find the "Treasures in the Bible". For more information please contact Mrs. Jan Taylor, Protestant Religious Education Coordinator at 676-8321.

Burk Friendship Festival to spotlight "Military Mile"

The annual Burkburnett Friendship Festival will spotlight a "Military Mile" of booths this year, showcasing the military in our community Oct. 4.

Only eight out of 60 booths remain in the Military Mile section and 17 in the food and play sections. If you

want to share unit info or make some money, contact Wendie Oringerderrf at 569-4138 or 642-7689.

Booth cost is \$35 and will be refunded in case of bad weather.

Entertainment, health care clinics, games, concerts and food will be available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Live bands include AA Bottom, T-Bone Road, and headliner Johnnie Dee and the Rocket 88s.

Free bus transportation for base personnel to Burkburnett will be offered at the main gate bus stop every hour from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Buses will return from Burkburnett at the 45-minute mark of every hour from 10:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Look for the beige Jubilee Center bus.

SOSC to hold function

The Squadron Officers Spouses Club is set to hold their montly function Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the officers club.

The topic of the event will be "Healthy Living." The 882nd Training Group and 82nd Medical Group will host the function.

Cost for the lunch is \$6.25 for members and \$8.25 for non-members.

Reservations can be made for lunch and child care by calling 851-8877.

Commissary to have case lot sale

The Defense Commissary Agency has produced a commemorative poster featuring retired Air Force Gen. (ret.) Chuck Yeager for display in Army and Air Force commissaries.

The poster is also available for display at morale, welfare and recreation facilities.

The poster has a universal message about commissary and exchange benefits. And since it features one of America's most celebrated military retirees, it ties in with the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's "Still Serving" campaign aimed at retirees.

"Still Serving" takes place Sept. 19-21 at most AAFES exchanges in the United States and major exchanges in Europe.

Sheppard's commissary and nearly 50 other stores will give customers an additional reason to shop and save by choosing to participate in DeCA's third annual "World's Biggest Case Lot" sale the same weekend as "Still Serving."

Shoppers should check their local commissary's Web pages at the "locations" link at <http://www.commissaries.com> for dates and times.

Sheppard's CFC 2003

Team Sheppard's 2003 Combined Federal Campaign begins Sept. 15 with the theme "What Makes America Great" and will last until Oct. 24.

The annual program gives all federal employees the opportunity to donate to local, national and international charitable organizations that can make a positive difference in the lives of thousands who find themselves in a time of need or crisis.

Last year's CFC campaign was an overwhelming success and this year's goal is \$333,000, which is a 2 percent increase over last year's goal.

For questions about the CFC, contact the CFC unit coordinator, Lt. Col. James Bruno, 82 Training Group Deputy Commander, at 6-1829, Maj. Karen Fraley at 6-5941, Capt. Charles Ashmore at 6-7292 or Master Sgt. Jeffrey Foreman at 6-7082.



Photo by Airman Jacques Lickteig

Snack time

Airman 1st Class Dennis Anderson gets a quick bite to eat between classes at one of the snack stands by the schools.

Student Activities: Happenings in the community

Student center events

Every Monday, 6-8 p.m. - jam session, bring your own instrument/equipment, free.

Every Tuesday, 5-9 p.m. - Video Night in the pub, free.

Every Wednesday, 3-5 p.m. - Pool Tournament, \$2 per person.

Every Thursday, 7-9 p.m. - Karaoke Night, free.

Every Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. to a.m. Club BDU dance, \$4 per person.

Every Sunday, 3-5 p.m. - billiards tournament in the ballroom, \$5 per person.



Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday: 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday: 10:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday: Noon to 10 p.m. Holidays: Noon to 8 p.m.

Red River Café Hours of Operation

Wednesday and Thursday: 4:30-10 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: 11 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Sunday and Holidays: Noon to 9 p.m.

Students to face MTLs in softball game

There will be a students vs. MTLs softball game Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. at Field 1. Support your favorite team. For more information, call 6-2972.



South fitness center to have football game

The south fitness center will have an eight-man flag football game Sept. 20 at 10 a.m. To participate, sign up by Thursday. For more information, call 6-2972.



MTLs to challenge students in volleyball game

There will be a students vs. MTLs volleyball game Sept. 27 at 10 a.m. To participate, sign up by Sept. 25 by calling 6-2972.



Center gives fitness incentive

Every Saturday the student center offers a variety of exercise programs for students as part of the Fitness Incentive Training for Students program. Two plastic chips are given to those who participate and one chip is given to those who attend. The squadron that collects the most chips at the end of the program will win a prize. For more information, call 6-2972.

Community center events

Free table tennis classes offered

Free classes are held every Monday and Friday. Professional tournament instructors are available. For more information, call 6-3866.

Pool tournament

Pool tournaments are held every Saturday at 2 p.m. The fee is \$2 per person. There will be first- and second-place trophies. Call 6-3866 for more information.



Free video night

The community center has a free video night every night beginning at 5 p.m. on the big screen TV in the lounge on the second floor. For more information, call 6-3866.

Other events

Library to have 911 seminar

The library will have a 911 seminar Wednesday from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Ms. Verenda Koch will instruct the course. For more information, call 6-6152.

Dining facilities to celebrate Air Force birthday

Dining halls 516, 726 and 1368 will celebrate the Air Force's birthday with a lunch special Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



Dining facilities celebrate birthdays with dinner

Students who are having a birthday this month and are on subsistence in kind are invited to celebrate their birthdays on the Friday of their choice for dinner. Students can contact the dining facility manager/supervisor, or call 6-2080 for more information.

"Through Desert Storms"

By Airman 1st Class Tarah Howard
383rd Training Squadron

*Traveling down a hard road
With dirt kicked in our faces
Following orders and commands
Running at a military pace*

*So far we've come along
With hot sweat dripping down
As we forge ourselves in fire
For pure gold to be found*

*Fighting for our families
We gladly go this way
To bring honor and glory
To our country on this day*

*Quietly singing are our unsung heroes
Who push on and press on throughout the sand
Trying to bring peace
To a warring foreign land*

*Peace and hope is shown
By our freely flowing red, white, and blue
So rest peacefully knowing
Your country is fighting for you!*

Deployed airmen get break on loans

By Mr. K.L. Vantran
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Servicemembers who have been deployed or mobilized are not required to make student loan payments during their absences.

Federal regulations require lenders to postpone the student loan program payments of active-duty servicemembers. This applies to people of the National Guard and Ready Reserves who have been called to active duty, as well as to active-duty people whose duty station has been changed as a result of a military mobilization.

“Many of the brave men and women serving our nation right now have put their personal lives on hold to answer the nation’s call to duty,” U.S. Education Secretary Mr. Rod Paige said. “As they defend the freedoms we cherish, our (servicemembers) should not have to worry about their student loan obligations and resuming their studies.”

He encouraged the higher education and lending communities to be flexible and provide assistance to servicemembers, so they can “easily resume their studies and financial obligations after they complete their tours of duty.”

The regulations apply to student loans made under the Federal Family Education Loan, William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan and Federal Perkins Loan programs.

The law also requires that active-duty people who have not begun the repayment period on their loans continue to receive a grace period (generally six months) before repaying their loans. Students who were in school at the time of mobilization must also be given a reasonable period to resume school before lenders request payments.

Colleges will not be required to collect financial-aid funds that active-duty students were given to pay for books and living expenses. Additionally, Education Department officials encouraged colleges and universities to either fully refund tuition and other institutional charges or give comparable credit against future charges to students forced to withdraw from school to fulfill their military obligations.

Additional information is available by calling 1-800-433-3243 or visiting the Department of Education Web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov>.

23rd Annual Lobster Bake

The 23rd
Annual
Lobster/
Steak Bake
is



Oct. 11

Tickets are
on sale now and
can be purchased
through Oct. 8.

Steak.....\$11

Lobster.....\$17

Both.....\$24

Adult Hot
Dog.....\$5

Childs Hot Dog..\$2

**For more
information about
the event, call
6-2760.**

**Points of
contact**

Ms. Marilyn
Lucas,
6-6647.

Ms. Kathy
Green,
6-2698.

Capt. Carolyn
Sablonski, 6-2271.

Airman 1st Class
Michael Guanill,
6-6075.

Soundoff

If you could ask a “Soundoff” question, what would it be?



*“Which non-fast food restaurant would you like to see on base?”
~ Master Sgt. Denise Koontz, Sheppard Law Center*



*“What do you think it takes to get something published in The Sheppard Senator?”
~ Mr. Michael Cox, DeCA director*



*“What do people think about the new BDUs?”
~ 2nd Lt. Brian Buschur, 80th Operations Support Squadron*



*“What was your worst out-processing experience?”
~ Airman Kassandra Berg, 382nd Training Squadron*

—Conservation Corner—

The heat is on: tips for heating during cold weather

Editor's note: Sheppard is starting a monthly column that provides hints on energy and water conservation and discusses "good news" stories about Sheppard's conservation efforts. Questions on conservation can be directed to Mr. Sam Hagins, Base Energy Manager, at extension 6-5689.

Although outside temperatures are still breaking 100°F, now is the time to start thinking about preparing your home for winter.

Most conservation measures are no cost or low cost and will lower your energy consumption while raising your comfort level. Below are ten simple things you can do at home to

save energy during the upcoming heating season:

1. Change heating system filters every month (free at the Self-Help Store).

2. Set your thermostat to 72 - 74°F during the winter. Move it down to 68° if leaving for more than an hour.

3. Check windows, doors, and electrical outlets for air drafts — caulk and weather strip around cracks and leaks as needed. Free at the Self-Help Store

4. Open window curtains and blinds during the day to let the hot sun help heat your home.

5. Change ceiling fans to move air upwards and set on

low speed to circulate warm air down to the living area.

6. Use rugs to lessen the coldness of bare floors.

7. Vent off unoccupied rooms to reduce load on heating system.

8. Check that your freezer is set no lower than 5°F and that your refrigerator is 37 to 40°F.

9. Adjust your water heater to 120° to save gas and avoid scalding accidents.

10. Adjust clothing instead of your thermostat — dress in layers to make it easier to transition to changing temperatures.

October is National Energy Awareness Month and will be the topic in next month's column.

MGIB transfer still available

The test period for the Air Force program that allows officers and airmen with designated critical skills and years of service the opportunity to transfer up to half of their Montgomery GI Bill benefits to their spouse and/or children ends September 30, 2003.

Up to 18 months of MGIB educational benefits may be transferred.

To take advantage of this

transfer option, eligible members must decide and make a declaration of choice. It is not necessary to decide how, or to whom, they want to transfer the benefit at this time.

Eligible members do not even have to be married or have dependent children at the time of declaration.

The eligibility requirements and procedure are very specific. The eligible

member must have accepted the MGIB enrollment upon entering active duty and must have completed at least six, but no more than 12 years of active duty.

Eligible enlisted airmen and officers must currently be serving in a designated Air Force Specialty Code — 1N3XX, 3E7X1 or 3C0X2 for airmen and 32E, 61S or 62E for officers. They must complete a DD Form 2366-2 with the Education Services Center and appropriate Military Personnel Flight activities before the test period ends.

Part of this process includes the member making a commitment to an additional four years of active service in their current AFSC.

Air Force members with questions can visit the education services center in Bldg 402, Room 306, and talk with a guidance counselor. The office is open for walk-in customers Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by calling 6-6231 to make a Friday appointment.

Achievers

Civilians receive promotions

Congratulations to the following civil service employees for their recent promotions:

82nd Contracting Squadron

Hazell Barnes
82nd Mission Support Squadron
Melody Brown
Lance Burroughs
Kimberly Kennedy
Micheale Kraft

82nd Civil Engineers Squadron

Vickie Washington
365th Training Squadron

82nd Contracting Squadron

Vernon Landavazo
Donnie Manos

782nd Training Group

Michael Mauldwin
80th Flying Training Wing

Patrick Walker

Base personnel to mentor students

By 2nd Lt. Ellen Harr

Base public communication

Members of Team Sheppard will be heading back to school this October — not as students, but as mentors.

Volunteers from Sheppard will help students in the Wichita Falls Independent School District boost their academic achievement and prepare for the rigors of college.

The Student Achievement Initiative with Academic Focus is a partnership between the Wichita Falls ISD and the local community, in which Team Sheppard will play a large role.

SAI is a new part of the existing Partners in Education program. Many units from the base already provide mentors for the PIE program, which targets students in elementary through high school.

Team Sheppard hopes to provide 140 additional mentors for the 7th through 10th grade students who will be involved in SAI. The initiative's goal is to raise academic achievement for students with high potential whose success might be jeopardized by certain risk factors.

These factors include students from a one-parent family with little or no support or students with no parents who are being raised by someone else with little or no support. Low socio-economic status is another risk factor.

Even though these students face significant challenges, they have also demonstrated potential for academic success. They have scored well

on one or more the Texas educational assessment exams and are enrolled in one or more academically rigorous courses such as Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate curriculum.

The influence of a mentor from the SAI program could give students the support they need to succeed academically in their courses and later on in college.

"I am convinced that this initiative can make a difference in the lives of the children we mentor," said Lt. Col. Lilly Chrisman, the installation project officer for the SAI program. "You can help children with their homework, encourage them not to give up when the work gets tough and help them form reasonable expectations of themselves. This not only helps them academically, it sets the stage for lifelong success."

Members of Team Sheppard have already received email from their group point of contact about the program.

Volunteers can fill out an application that matches them with a student most in need of their skills, complete a background check form and attend a one-hour orientation. Part-time mentors and substitutes are also needed.

Mentors will meet with their student at their school for an hour on a weekly basis from October through May. The program will begin October 13.

For more information or if you have not been contacted by email and are interested becoming an SAI mentor, contact Colonel Chrisman at 6-6424.



Photo by Mr. T.R. Steele

Always there...

Army and Air Force Exchange Service associate Ms. Nicole Smith cuts the cake at her "Welcome Home" party. Ms. Smith volunteered to serve troops deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom by working at an AAFES facility in Camp Jersey, Kuwait. AAFES' volunteer employees work in retail facilities around the world to provide deployed troops with the same of the same goods and services they have on their home installation. AAFES also has employees at other deployed locations, such as the Balkans and Southwest Asia.

Centennial of flight:

This week in air and space history

September 1943 - In September 1943, Sheppard received notification from the Army Air Force Training Command that it would receive 100 of DeGaulle's Free French Soldiers who would be attending the Airplane Mechanics course.

Sept. 12, 1962 - President John F. Kennedy spoke at Rice University's Rice Stadium to 35,000 Houstonians, saying of the lunar landing program, "...we do this not because it is easy but because it is hard..."

Sept. 13, 1959 - The first man-made object, Luna 2, struck the Moon.

Sept. 13, 1977 - The first free glide test flight of manned Space Shuttle Orbiter Enterprise is completed by Fred Haise and Gordon Fullerton.

Sept. 13, 1906 - Brazilian aviator Alberto Santos-Dumont makes the first officially recorded aeroplane flight in Europe for eight seconds.

Sept. 14, 1939 - The VS-300 becomes the first practical helicopter to ever take off. Igor Sikorsky himself piloted the vehicle and on his first flight, Sikorsky was able to lift off 3 ft for about 10 seconds.

Sept. 14, 1944 - U.S. Col. Floyd B. Wood, Major Harry Wexler, and Lt. Frank Record, flying in a Douglas A-20 "Havoc," successfully carry out the first attempt to fly into the heart of a hurricane to obtain valuable scientific data.

Sept. 14, 1984 - For the first time, a solo crossing of the Atlantic Ocean was made by



balloon. Early balloonists found balloon ideal for crossing bodies of water such as the English Channel. This led to the eventual crossing of the Atlantic Ocean in a balloon.

Sept. 15, 1939 - Jacqueline Cochran, flying a Seversky monoplane, sets a new international speed record of 305.926 M.P.H. for 1,000 kilometers in Burbank, California.

Sept. 15, 1959 - A. Scott Crossfield became the first to pilot the fastest and highest flying aircraft in history, the rocket powered X-15.

Sept. 16, 1910 - Bessica Faith Raiche becomes the first (official) American woman to solo.

Sept. 16, 1947 - The United States Air Force is established as a separate and equal element of the United States armed forces.

Sept. 16, 1969 - The President Nixon predicted Americans would be on Mars in the 1980s.

Sept. 17, 1908 - In the final flight at Fort Myer, the "Wright Flyer" crashes, killing Lt. Thomas Selfridge and injuring Orville Wright.

All articles submitted to the *Sheppard Senator* must be in no later than noon the Friday before publication.

All story or brief submissions to The Sheppard Senator must be e-mailed or received no later than 12 p.m. the Friday before requested publication. For more information about writing styles, please visit the Public Communication Web site at www.sheppard.af.mil/82trwpa.



U.S. Navy photo by Chief Photographer's Mate Johnny Bivera

President George H.W. Bush accompanied by his daughter and ship's sponsor Doro Bush Koch, wrote his initials with chalk to a plaque which is then traced by a welder's torch and permanently affixed to the keel of the ship.

Keel laid for last Nimitz-class carrier

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (NNS) -- The ceremonial keel-laying of the Navy's newest Nimitz-class carrier, Pre-Commissioning Unit George H. W. Bush (PCU 77), was held Sept. 6 at Northrup Grumman Newport News shipyard. On-hand to authenticate the keel was former president and namesake George H. W. Bush.

"Part of the reason this honor is so deeply meaningful goes back to my own Navy days," said Mr. Bush, referring to his own service in the U.S. Navy during World War II. "Looking back, I love my time serving in the Navy..."

The 10th and final Nimitz-class carrier will be the most advanced carrier of the class, a transitional carrier to bridge the

gap between today's Navy and the next generation of aircraft carriers - CVN 21.

Improvements include a modernized island house that includes a new, more integrated radar tower, navigation and communication systems upgrades and installation of transparent armor windows. Also included will be a modernized aircraft launch and recovery system, and an integrated damage control data display system, which will improve the crew's crisis response capabilities.

"When you think about the future of the Navy, and what this [carrier] represents, not only is this our transition carrier, the one that is going to continue to lead us into the future, but it's named after another Sailor, a commander

in chief..." Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (SS/AW) Terry D. Scott, who also attended the ceremony, said. "It just represents all that is great about our country, and I cannot wait until the day our Sailors can proudly man the rails on this ship, and the day that it joins our fleet."

Saturday's ceremony served to authenticate the keel by welding a steel plate burnished with George H. W. Bush's initials to the keel. After witnessing the burnishing, Mr. Bush announced, "The keel has been truly and fairly laid."

Construction on the carrier began soon after the contract was awarded to Northrop Grumman Newport News Jan. 26, 2001. The ship's christening is scheduled for March 2006, and delivery to the fleet is planned for March 2008.

AKO to launch new benefits tool

By Spc. Bill Putnam

Army News Service

WASHINGTON - The Army will launch a new "benefits tool" on Army Knowledge Online for soldiers, retirees and their families Sept. 5.

The new site on AKO will link together for the first time all of the Web sites that cover the "life cycle" of the soldier from initial enlistment to retirement and beyond, Mr. John Radke, chief of Army Retirement Services, said.

"Our goal is for one-stop shopping" of a soldier's benefits, Mr. Radke said.

Located under AKO's "Self Service," the links will send users to an AKO site that will have Web site links covering topics like Tri-Care, Army Recruiting, Defense Finance Service, Casualty Assistance and Veterans Burial Benefits, he said.

Work began on the site in late 2001 when Lt. Gen. John Le Moyne, the Army's personnel chief, wanted a simple place for soldiers and their families

to find out what they're entitled to at any given moment of their career, Mr. Radke said.

"We're bringing together the entire Army family," he said.

A number of different ways to present the links have been worked out since development began, said Col. Phil Smith, the deputy director of Army Personnel Transformation (G-1).

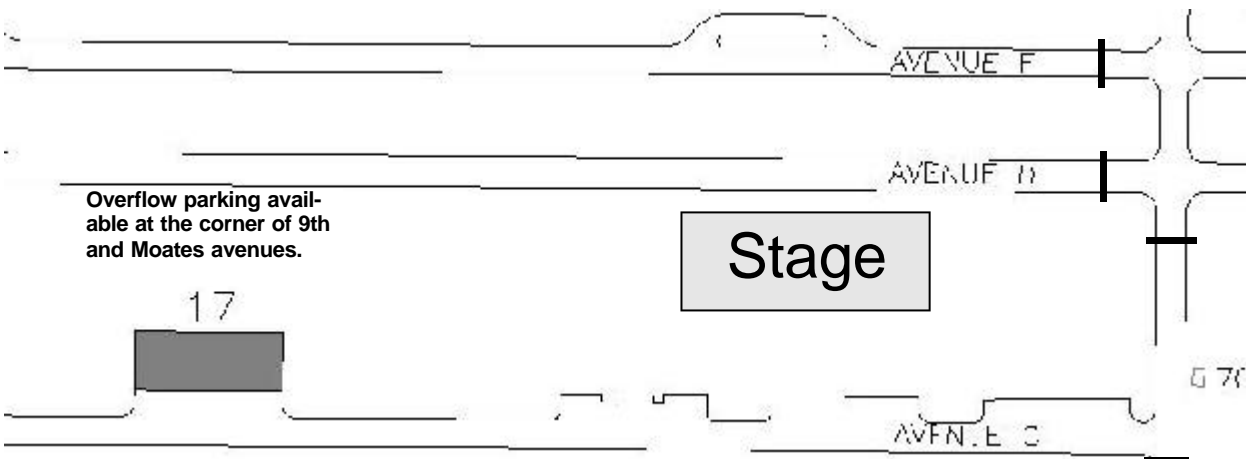
Recruiters, young soldiers and spouses were brought in and gave feedback on the site's design, Colonel Smith said.

But the tool isn't entirely for everyone stationed at a remote place and won't stay static, he said. Links might be added or deleted as time goes on, he added.

The tool will be good for new Army families, like first enlistment soldiers and their families, Colonel Smith.

For a spouse to access the site, the soldier or retiree needs to sign them up for a guest AKO account, Mr. Radke said.

Cagle to perform on Sheppard Wednesday



Free concert available to all base personnel

Country & Western music sensation Chris Cagle will be at Sheppard Wednesday to perform for base personnel at 7 p.m. on the grass between Avenues D and C near the Self-help Store.

Mr. Cagle was scheduled to perform during June's air show, but the weather rained on his parade.

All Sheppard personnel, including military, civilian, retirees and dependents are invited.

There are a few things concert goers should be aware of when attending the show.

Avenues D and E will be blocked off at both ends from Fifth to Ninth avenues beginning at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday.

No coolers or pets will be allowed in the concert area. Guests will be allowed to bring lawn chairs.

Personnel who live on base are encouraged to walk to the concert. Overflow parking will be available at the intersections of Ninth and Moates avenues.

The 82nd Services Division will be on hand to sell soft drinks, water, beer and ice cream. Sausage-on-a-Stick will also be available.

We will never forget:

Attacks struck close to home

By Sarah Anne Carter

Air Force Materiel Command Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio – I, Sarah Anne Carter ...

The pictures are considered stock photography by most news organizations now. News organizations use the photos today to emphasize a news event, usually involving terrorism or, most recently, the release of the report about how U.S. intelligence acted prior to that day. Yet, every time I stumble upon a picture from Sept. 11, 2001, I pause. The pictures still affect me.

... having been appointed to government civil service in the United States Air Force ...

My current position doesn't quite show how loyal to the Air Force and my country I am. People I've met in this professional environment often joked that I'm blue through and through.

I was born at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo., to a young airman and his wife. I grew up on military installations across the United States and in several foreign countries.

My family bonded through the experiences of moving, separations due to schools and the countless temporary duties. And now that I've grown up, I'm working for the Air Force.

... do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; ...

My first day of permanent civil service, I took the oath. And it truly meant something. I had seen enemies attack my country several months before.

When I went to work on Sept. 11, 2001, evil men were plotting to destroy the lives of hundreds of innocent people. I was in shock with the rest of America when the World Trade Center towers were attacked.

And then the terrorists got personal. They

hijacked a plane and directed it straight toward the Pentagon where my father was sitting in his blue uniform serving his country.

... that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter. ...

Many hours were spent that morning wondering how many members of my family would be alive at the end of the day. One of my brothers and I were relatively safe in Omaha, Neb., although when the president landed at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., I'm sure that city became a target.

My mother and my other brother were in Washington, D.C. I received several panicked phone calls from my mother who was not only wondering where her husband might be and when her son might be able to get home from a local high school, but if she should evacuate her housing at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C., after she heard a loud explosion.

... SO HELP ME GOD.

Each minute that morning seemed to last forever. And then the phone rang, and I heard my father's voice.

The day ended and all five of us considered ourselves immensely blessed to still have an intact family. So many people that day did not have the same ending.

All five of us pause when we are reminded of that day, whether it's when we see the pictures on the news or hear conversations about that day. On Sept. 11, 2003 – two years later – I plan to walk in to work at an organization where I'm serving my country, and my father will walk into the Pentagon wearing his uniform proudly.

My mother and brothers will count their blessings. And I know that sometime during that day, we will all take time to pause.

Sept. 11, 2001 – we will never forget.

Air Force leaders issue Patriot Day message

WASHINGTON – The following is a Patriot Day message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

"The second anniversary of the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, provides us all an opportunity to remember those murdered in New York, at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania, as well as those patriots who have sacrificed their lives in the war on terror.

"Through tragedy, our nation renewed its unending resolve to fight terrorism, to defend our way of life and to give hope to others suffering under repressive regimes that support terror. Patriot Day reaffirms the airman's obligation to fight for what's right — obliterating terrorism on every front to ensure a safe tomorrow for future generations of Americans and freedom-loving people around the world.

"You — America's finest men and women who comprise our Air Force — are doing absolutely remarkable work around the globe. From our own skies to the

front lines in Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations around the world, our superior Total Force of active-duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian airmen continues to respond brilliantly as the world's greatest air and space force. Rest assured, you're making it more difficult every day for terrorists to have their way.

"On this Patriot Day, let's remember those who are deployed in harm's way. Just as important, let's renew our commitment to the families of those who are deployed. The unwavering commitment to their loved ones far from home is phenomenal; the cause for which their loved ones serve is noble and just.

"As we've seen, winning the war on terrorism is a long and deliberate journey — we're confident you are up to the task. Be patient and stay the course — we will continue to face challenges and overcome obstacles as we win the war on terrorism. Thanks for all you do for America and our Air Force.

"May God bless you, and may God bless America."

SEAWELL

Continued from page 1

Although a controlled chaos reigned at the Pentagon, Colonel Seawell said worry and panic hit the streets of Arlington. After taking the subway to a bus station — the colonel's normal route home — the second positive was seen, he said.

He had been at that same bus

stop with the same people for four years and hardly a word had been spoken amongst the group. But, that day, all of the other passengers looked to Colonel Seawell for answers, guidance and condoleance.

"When I showed up at that bus station, they all came up to me," he said. "That was so touching."

A renewed acceptance and confidence in the military was born out of tragedy.



Daily Programming

Sheppard Today ~ 6 a.m., noon, 5 p.m.

Air Force News ~ 6:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m.

Navy/Marine News ~ 8 a.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m.

Army News ~ 8:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

Programming runs 24 hours on TSTV Channel 14.

Check out the detailed schedule at www.sheppard.af.mil/82trwpa/TSTV.html

Today

2 a.m. - Air Force Productivity Enhancing Capital Investment

1:30 p.m. - PKI and Common Access Card Training

8 p.m. - A-76 Town Hall Meeting

Saturday

9:30 a.m. - The Memphis Belle

6:30 p.m. - Famous Generals: Pershing

9:30 p.m. - Military Separation Series: Family Reunion for Waiting Spouses

10:30 a.m. - Airlift... Working for Humanity

Sunday

5a.m. - Flying for Freedom: Women Air Force Service Pilots

10 a.m. - The Army Soldier
4:30 p.m. - The Air Force Reserves, On the Move

Monday

1 p.m. - The Combined Federal Campaign 2003
6 p.m. - Air Force Medical Service: 50 Years of Excellence
10:30 p.m. - Third Century of: The American Experiment

Tuesday

7am - The History of Air Power

10:30 a.m. - Airlift... Working for Humanity
3:30 p.m. - Lunch-n-Learn with Col. Kathy Jones about "The One Minute Manager"

Wednesday

4:30 a.m. - PKI and Common Access Card Training
7:30 a.m. - Operation Rescue
3 p.m. - A-76 Town Hall Meeting

Thursday

9 a.m. - PKI and Common Access Card Training
11a.m. - Sheppard Idol; student Talent Show
8:30 p.m. - Lunch-n-Learn with Col. Kathy Jones about "The One Minute Manager"

Turkish native enlists, returns home

By Tech. Sgt. Melissa Phillips

39th Air Base Group Public Affairs

INCIRLIK AIR BASE, Turkey —An airman here has known what he wanted to do ever since he was a small boy growing up in a middle-class neighborhood near Balgat Air Base in Ankara, Turkey.

Staff Sgt. Erim Celik, a contract specialist assigned to the 39th Contracting Squadron, wanted to live the American dream. There was only one problem. He was not born under the "red, white and blue," nor were his parents U.S. citizens.

His mother told him that he would stare with wonder at his neighbors across the street, who were American airmen stationed at the base.

"They all seemed like they were having so much fun. They were sharp and clean, and so orderly," recalled Sergeant Celik, who still proudly maintains his Turkish citizenship.

Although he grew up in a fortunate family, Sergeant Celik said life in Turkey can be hard.

"The educational opportunities aren't always there, and life can be a struggle," he said.

He knew the first step to achieve his dream was education. A high-school graduate from Mr. Ted Ankara College in Ankara, Sergeant Celik completed his senior year as an exchange student in Missouri in 1992. Working his way through college, he graduated with a business-management degree from Southwest Missouri State in Springfield, Mo., in 1998.

His next steps were to become a U.S. citizen and find a career. The military seemed to be the answer for him, he said.

For many American youths, an enlistment in the military typically means giving up some of their freedom. For Sergeant Celik, it meant gaining the freedom to control his destiny.

"I had a friend in the Navy who liked it," Sergeant Celik said. "He got his green card, and told me it was a good way to become an American citizen and travel the world.

"At first, I thought about going (into) the Navy, but my friend told me to go (into) the Air Force ... that I would see more," he said.

He said he considered the

Army, which offered to pay his college bills. In the end, he was sold on the Air Force's education, benefits, professionalism and technical skills.

Originally, he wanted to be a bioenvironmental engineer. Instead, in 1999, he became a contracting specialist, a career where airmen must know how to communicate with customers and vendors to get the best price for merchandise and services.

After a few years in the Air Force, he was able to return to his native country, where his ability to communicate in English and Turkish paid off.

"His ability to speak fluent Turkish and awareness of the culture is a definite asset to the squadron," said Senior Master Sgt. Mark Miller, 39th CONS superintendent. "He helps eliminate the language barrier."

Sergeant Celik said this assignment has been a great way for him to walk between and

combine the two worlds he loves the most and, in a way, act as an unofficial ambassador to help people understand the other country's point of view.

"I can sit back and see both sides. In Turkey, it's not uncommon to see a family of four on a moped. Americans are amazed by this," he said.

Sometimes he said he feels even his wife, Sandra, and other Americans view Turkey as the Middle East they watch on the news. For instance, when he was a foreign exchange student in high school, students frequently asked him if he rode camels.

He would laugh and tell them his dad was a used camel dealer, and the camels with two humps were more expensive than camels with one.

In reality, his father is a retired high-school principal and his mother retired from sales.

"Turkey is more modern and liberal than people think," he said.

Returning to Turkey also afforded Sergeant Celik the opportunity to help out those less fortunate. In his time off, he works beside other airmen through organizations like Project Orphanage. The program helps disadvantaged youths by providing them shoes, clothes or the immediate gratification of food.

A father himself to 7-month-old Alec Izmen, he said he wants to impart some of the same desire to succeed he had to the local Turkish children who remind him of his youth.

"I want to show kids you don't have to be afraid to take that chance," Sergeant Celik said. "Even if I can talk one child into deciding they want to finish high school (and) then college, it's worth it. I want to give them the encouragement they need."

After he retires, he said he would like to become a teacher.

His immediate goal is to earn a commission through the Airman

Education and Commissioning Program as a foreign area officer specializing in Turkish, he said.

"Even though I'm American, I'll always have my roots in Turkey," Sergeant Celik said.

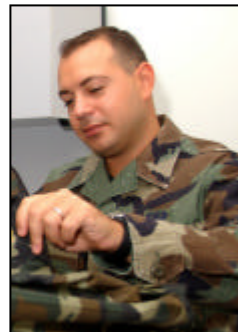


Photo by Airman Joseph Thompson

Staff Sgt. Erim Celik, a Turkish native, inspects a chemical warfare bag.



Airman 1st Class Josh Willard

Sheppard Spotlight: 15 lines of fame

- 1. **Name:** Josh Willard
- 2. **Rank:** Airman 1st Class
- 3. **Organization and position:** Optometry technician.
- 4. **Hometown:** Mountain Home, Ark.
- 5. **Married or single (include your family if you'd like):** Single.
- 6. **Hobbies/Favorite thing(s) to do in your free time:** Going home to hunt and fish.
- 7. **Funniest childhood memory:** Going canoeing with my friends.
- 8. **Why did you join the Air Force?** To get money for college.
- 9. **Why do you stay in the Air Force?** My goal is to complete college at the University of Arkansas and start my own business.
- 10. **Date Arrived at Sheppard:** Sept. 24, 2001, for technical school.
- 11. **Most rewarding aspect of your job:** The people I work with.
- 12. **Favorite book or movie:** "Outside Providence."
- 13. **What is your dream vacation?** Cancun.
- 14. **If you could be anyone for one day, who would you be?** Hugh Hefner
- 15. **Most prized possession:** The memory of the senior trip to Cancun.

General activities

Ceramics shop open for summer hours

The ceramics shop is open for summer hours. All the materials needed to start creative projects are available. More than 2,500 craft projects are available for lessons with a variety of paints, glazes and supplies. The ceramics shop is located in Bldg. 832, the health and wellness center building. Summer hours of operation are Wednesday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, call 855-0118.

Community center to have bed race

The community center will have a bed race Saturday from 8 to 11 a.m. at the BX parking lot. Seven-person teams will compete in five categories:

- Best bed decoration
- Best costumes
- Best race time
- Best agility
- Best theme

The first-place prize for highest overall points is seven rides in an official NASCAR car. The second-place prize is seven Red River Speedway family passes.

There will also be drawings for audience prizes and an ice cream social at 11 a.m. For more information, call 6-3866.

Club activities

"Travel the World on Us" promotes club

Both officers and enlisted club are taking part in a promotion that gives current members a chance to win ITT travel packages, sports and entertainment tickets, airline tickets, hotel stays and rental vehicles until Oct. 31. For more information, call 6-6460 or 6-2083.

Officers club urges members to book Christmas parties

Members who are planning to have Christmas parties at the officers club should book the rooms now before they are gone. Call catering at 6-6460.

Enlisted club gets in a Frenzy

The enlisted club is giving members chances to win a variety of prizes and trips with Football Frenzy 2003. On Oct. 7, members will start planning the club's Super Bowl party. For more information, call 6-2083.

Officers club has daily lunch specials

The officers club has daily lunch specials Monday through Friday. Cost is \$5.95 for members and \$7.95 for non-members. Membership pays!

On Mondays, they serve a country lunch. Tuesday is Italian. Wednesday is Texas style. Thursday is Mexican, and Friday is seafood. Call the officers club at 6-6460 for more information.

Enlisted club offers darts, cards, dominoes

The enlisted club offers a variety of activities. Cards, dominoes and pool are available every day. Also, a video game system is available every night to play in the main bar area. For more information, call 6-2083.

Officers club to have two-for-one sirloin

The officers club is scheduled to have a two-for-one sirloin night tonight for members only. The cost is \$9.95 for two. Call 6-6460 for more information.

Enlisted club to have Latin night

The enlisted club is scheduled to have a Latin night Saturday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Call 6-2083 for more information.

Officers club to have Sunday brunch

The officers club is scheduled to have a brunch Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All ranks are welcome. Cost is \$10.95 for members, \$12.95 for non-members. For more information, call 6-6460.

Enlisted club to have comedy night

The enlisted club is scheduled to have a comedy night Sept. 19 beginning at 9 p.m. Doors open at 8 p.m. For more information, call 6-2083.

Enlisted club to have Mongolian barbecue

The enlisted club will serve Mongolian barbecue Thursday from 5:30 to 8 p.m. All ranks are welcome. Cost is \$.45 per ounce for beef, chicken or pork. For more information, call 6-2083.

Upcoming trips, shows

ITT planning upcoming trips in September

ITT offers tickets and tours to local and surrounding attractions. Call 6-2302 for more information about any of these trips.

Six Flags - Sept. 27. Cost is \$53 per person and includes round-trip transportation and theme park admission. The group will leave at 7 a.m. and return at 8 p.m. Sign up by Sept. 22.

Grapevine Mills - Oct. 11. Cost is \$43 per person and includes round-trip transportation, ice skating at Polar Ice with skate rental and \$30 game card for Gameworks. The group will leave at 9 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. Register by Oct. 6.

Now showing

Today 6:30 p.m.

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider

Today 9 p.m.

American Wedding

Saturday 2 p.m.

American Wedding

Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Pirates of the Caribbean

Saturday 7 p.m.

The Fighting Temptations

Sunday 2 p.m.

American Wedding

Sunday 4:30 p.m.

To be determined

Sunday 7 p.m.

The Fighting Temptations

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

To be determined

Schedule subject to change

without notification. For

information, call 6-4427.

American Wedding (R) - Jason Biggs, Alyson Hannigan - Jim and Michelle have decided to tie the knot. Meanwhile, the question is, how many things will go wrong before Jim and Michelle walk down the aisle?



****FREE SHOW** The Fighting Temptations (PG)** - Cuba Gooding, Jr., Beyonce Knowles - Darrin Hill has just lost his job with a New York advertising firm and bill collectors are chasing him all over the city. But just when he thinks his luck has completely run out, Darrin discovers he's the only surviving relative of his Aunt Sally who has just left him \$150,000.00. (Tickets are required.)



Chapel Schedule

Solid Rock Cafe

Solid Rock Cafe is open every day at Bldg. 450. Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Saturday from 1 to 11:30 p.m.

Sunday from 1 to 9:30 p.m. Sunday Protestant Bible study is at 4 p.m.

Contemporary Praise Worship Service is at 5 p.m. Chapel Ropes Meeting, Tuesday from 11:15 a.m. to noon and 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Parents and Tots, Monday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m.

Praise Band Rehearsal, Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon (Andria Hayman), Solid Rock Saturday Meal, 5 p.m.

Parish Ministry Worship Services

Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Inspirational Gospel Worship Services, south chapel

Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Protestant Community Worship Service, north chapel

Religious Education

Sunday school classes, Bldg. 962, 9 a.m.

Tuesday night Bible study, 6 p.m., south chapel

Thursday night Bible study, noon (lunch provided), south chapel

Protestant Men of the Chapel

Saturday, 6:30 a.m., south chapel

PMOC breakfast/fellowship is the second Saturday of the month at Golden Corral at 8 a.m.

For more information, call the base chapel at 6-4370

Training to fight for life

Medical aircrews must learn to survive, evade, resist for themselves, others

By Master Sgt. Chuck Roberts

Airman Magazine

1st Lt. James Greer looked like a man who'd been beaten and dragged. But to earn your wings in the medical flying world, you have to crawl before you can fly.

Lieutenant Greer, an Air National guardsman, had low-crawled through rugged Texas terrain evading enemy forces. He emerged tired, dirty, scratched and hungry after four days of the field portion of B-level medical survival, evasion, resistance and escape training required for aspiring flight doctors, nurses and aeromedical technicians.

"It kicked my butt," Lieutenant Greer said in a tired whisper as he sat in a classroom chair back at Brooks City-Base, Texas. "It was intense. It was interesting. I'm glad it's over with," said the flight nurse who is assigned to the 118th Airlift Wing in Nashville, Tenn.

He was one of the older students at the two-week course, but signs of weariness were also visible on the faces of the others who had just completed the course.

Senior Airman Josh Burris, an aeromedical technician assigned to the 43rd Operations Group at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., moved like a 23-year-old one step away from turning 100.

"It's over," Airman Burris said slowly and with much effort. "It was challenging and tiring. But I learned a lot. I learned to navigate. If I hadn't learned that, I'd still be lost in the woods."

This training is more commonly associated with fighter pilots forced to bail out over enemy territory. The training came into being for medical crews during the early 1970s as a result of the Vietnam War, said Tech. Sgt. M.T. Elliot, chief of the training. The training encompasses survival skills such as fire-making, evading enemy forces, resisting captors if imprisoned and escaping from those same captors.

But pilots and aircrew members flying combat aren't the only ones who could be shot down by enemy forces. Medical

crews transporting patients face the same danger. Although they are noncombatants and should be returned to friendly forces as required by the revised Geneva Convention, Sergeant Elliot said history shows some countries don't adhere to the agreement.

Sergeant Elliot and his staff of six survival, evasion, resistance and escape specialists teach about a dozen classes each year to as many as 60 students at a time.

The course is similar to the one taken by pilots and aircrew members at Fairchild AFB, Wash., except that resistance and escape training is taught at a more academic level for medical troops, Sergeant Elliot said.

During the course in April — while Operation Iraqi Freedom was going on — Staff Sgt. Timothy Wegner said the training seemed even more relevant and had him paying close attention to his instructors.

"It really makes me step back and think how important this really is in our job in aerovac [medicine] if we were to crash," said Sergeant Wegner, an aeromedical technician from the 375th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Scott AFB, Ill.

"You learn how to take care of patients in the plane, but what happens if you crash? The war really hits home to the reality

that planes fall out of the sky. The knowledge we gain from this experience may one day help save our lives or the life of someone else. That's pretty much the bottom line with all this."

"If you're not able to take care of yourself, you're not going to be able to take care of the patients who rely on you," said Capt. Jennifer Ralicki, a nurse at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Texas, as she sat perched on the exposed roots of a large tree while holding a fishing line dropped into the Blanco River.

Their food supply during the four days in the field was supplemented only by a campfire stew their first night, a rabbit and jerky they learned to cure. Fish didn't make it on anyone's menu.

The first two days were devoted to basic survival skills such as making a fire and land navigation.

Supplies were limited to what they could carry on their backs, and they spent the remaining two days evading the enemy and trying to link up with friendly forces at specific locations at specific times.

The lack of food and sleep combined with the physical exertion required to evade enemy forces through the thick

brush of Texas hill country made for tough training. But how tough is debatable.

"I don't think we're that tough," Sergeant Elliot said with a hint of a smile. "But a lot of [the students] think it's the toughest thing they've ever done. It's tough enough to give them a sense of accomplishment and to feel what it would be like to be in a survival situation."

"It's crucial for this career field," said Staff Sgt. Michael O'Neil, an aeromedical technician from the 86th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Ramstein, Germany, of the training he'd received. "It's not always the primary front line guys who get captured these days. We need to know our role."

Their role is similar to downed aircrews except for the additional concern for patients. The movement of patients would be kept to a minimum. They might remain in a camp area under the care of medical technicians while others would forage for food or attempt to contact friendly forces. That aspect is discussed while in the field but not actively practiced, Sergeant Elliot said.

Patient care was most obvious during the ditching exercise. Inside a large hangar at Brooks, students boarded a "survival airlines" flight inside the hull of a

C-54 Skymaster that saw duty during World War II. The flight turned into an immediate disaster and had to ditch in icy waters. When the aircraft door opened, the brightly lit pool beside the Skymaster had transformed into a dark and disorienting scene of high winds and driving rain.

In addition to egressing the doomed aircraft and boarding the life rafts, the medical aircrew also had to transport an infant, a small child and an injured adult. Mannequins were used for the infant and child, but the adult "patient" was as real as the scenario seemed, according to participants.

While some plunged into the water below, other medical crewmembers placed life preservers on their patients and assisted them into the water. Then they carefully swam and pulled their patients to safety into large circular life rafts.

The infant, however, was first placed into the bottom of an infant cot that looked like a life raft for a doll and gently lowered below.

Such a landing is an unlikely event, but Lieutenant Greer said he was confident of one thing.

"If I ever go down, I know I'll come back and thank these guys. It'll save your life."

Marines establish Mortuary Affairs Company

By Sgt. Matthew Miller

U.S. Marine Corps

AD DIWANIYA, Iraq — After we lose servicemembers in a war, many do not think about who gets them back home. For those Marines who died during Operation Iraqi Freedom, there is a small, virtually-unknown company of reservists who answered the call.

Mortuary Affairs Company, Combat Service Support Group-11, has been tasked with the sometimes-difficult job of recovering, processing and shipping their fallen brothers and sisters back to the United States quickly.

"We make sure everyone gets home, regardless," said Staff Sgt. Ralph Patterson, Acting Company Gunnery Sergeant, MA Company. "We honor them by getting them home. We go by the Marine

Corps philosophy 'We take care of our own'."

The Marine Corps did not have a dedicated mortuary affairs unit before Operation Iraqi Freedom, according to Sergeant Patterson. The Marine Corps relied on an Army unit and about ten Marines who trained others during the first Gulf War, but there was not an entire unit dedicated to bringing back fallen Marines.

Three reserve units each dedicated about eighty Marines and sent them to the Mortuary Affairs Army school in January, as the Armed Forces was preparing to deploy. These trained Marines became part of the first Mortuary Affairs Company to serve in combat for the Marine Corps.

"I am really glad the Marine Corps is doing this now," said Sgt. Jeremy Davis, MA Platoon Sergeant, a 24-year-old

native of Denver, Colo. "It's not a glorious job, but it needs to be done, and it needs to be done by fellow Marines."

The Marines sometimes had to sift through ashes and vehicle remains for days to find personal identification, such as dog tags or nametapes.

They did not stop until they knew they had identified all the missing servicemembers in an area. Sometimes the only thing they found was a dog tag to identify someone.

"Dog tags always seem to make it. I don't know what they're made of but they seem to survive through anything," said Sergeant Patterson. "One of our Marines was looking through the wreckage of the amtrack and found a melted glob of metal that was a rifle. There was a chain hanging out of that metal glob and when we cut it open there was a dog tag inside."

If it is possible to have

someone identified, you want to," said Lance Cpl. William Smith, a 25-year-old mortuary affairs specialist from Marietta, Ga.

Sergeant Patterson said he spent two days in a pile of debris that used to be the driver's area of an amphibious assault vehicle that was hit by a missile.

He almost quit, but something inside told him to keep looking. A few hours later, he found the dog tag of the last Marine left to be identified from the vehicle. He unexpectedly saw that name again later.

"There was a story in the Marine Corps Times about a woman who was left at home caring for her children while her husband was fighting in Iraq," said Sergeant Patterson. "It went into a lot of depth about the family. At the end of the story it said, 'In memory of (the Marine's name)'. That is one of the many parts of the

job that make it worthwhile."

The Marines of the mortuary affairs company follow strict rules and military traditions when handling the bodies of fallen servicemembers.

"We go by the old traditions of handling bodies of a fallen brother," said Corporal Smith. "You don't stand over the remains. You don't walk over the remains. That's for friend or enemy."

"We give the dead Iraqi soldier the same respect we would give our own Marine. They are warriors, just like us."

The mortuary affairs Marines take their job seriously because they aren't doing this for themselves; they are doing it for fallen comrades, their friends and families.

"Our CO told us before he left that you can judge a civilization by how they treat their children, their elderly and their dead," Corporal Smith said. "The last part is our job."

Life 'booms' for KC-10 airman

By Senior Airman Rachel Bush

*380th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs*

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM – At midnight, Airman 1st Class Katherine Monke looked out over Afghanistan from her KC-10 Extender. She said one of the best things about her job was just sitting up in the cockpit.

"I think to myself, 'I wonder what my friends back home are doing?' Then I look down and realize I am flying over Baghdad or Afghanistan or one of the hundreds of other places I have flown over," Airman Monke said. "I know this is something they will never get to experience, and this is something that I will never forget."

Airman Monke, the tanker's boom operator, will usually refuel between one and four planes, but she stayed incredibly busy on this 12-hour mission Sept. 5, making 18 refuelings.

She chose to be a boom operator after her recruiter suggested she be a flier, since she had a great desire to travel and see the world.

"It is definitely a lot of fun. I am happy with my decision," she said.

Airman Monke has been in the Air Force for almost two years, with training taking up the better part of one of those years. This is her first deployment.

Four hours into the mission, she was called to her post to make the first boom connection. A-10 Thunderbolt IIs and F-16 Fighting Falcons were her customers that night.

"A-10s are the hardest to refuel because they fly so much slower than the KC-10. The KC-10 has to drastically slow down for them to catch up," Airman Monke said.

"Refueling an A-10 makes my job look a lot harder than it is. Really, I never have to work this hard to get someone connected," she said as the A-10 pilot backed away for his fourth attempt at a connection.

Although the situation can be frustrating, Airman Monke remained calm as the A-10 came in closer.

"She can do that. She can handle the most nerve-racking portion of her job with a lot of

patience because she is (very) good at her job," said flight engineer Tech. Sgt. Mike Cox.

After the A-10 received its fill,

Airman Monke received a short break. At 1:25 a.m., she prepared to refuel two F-16s.

A little more than five hours

later, after distributing more than 60,000 pounds of fuel, the biggest part of Airman Monke's job was finished. She was nearing the end of her 16-hour duty day, but still had to complete the paperwork that comes with the job.

With her paperwork completed, she was free to start studying her Career Development Course.

The best thing about her job, she said, are the people she works with.

"... Everyone I work with is phenomenal. They all have knowledge to share, and we learn from each other along the way," she said.

Although her time in the Air Force has been short, Airman Monke has already accomplished one of the biggest goals she had set for herself: Working on a KC-10. Before leaving for basic training, she had seen a KC-10 at an air show and set her sights on it.

"When you come in as a boom (operator) you are guaranteed to work on a KC-135, but you have to be asked to join the KC-10 team," she said. "I told my dad, 'That is the plane I want to work on.' So, being asked to work on (it) is definitely my biggest accomplishment."



Photo by Senior Airman Rachel Bush

Airman 1st Class Katherine Monke operates the boom on a KC-10 Extender during a recent combat mission over Afghanistan.

Once in a lifetime: Hometown hero meets hometown band

By Army Pfc. Andrew Hille-gass

Marine News Service

WASHINGTON – Cpl. Antonio Deascanis never thought he would say these words when he joined the Marine Corps: "Please welcome the band that speaks to 'The Young and the Hopeless,' Good Charlotte."

But, Sept. 4, on the National Mall in Washington in front of a crowd of 100,000 people, the young corporal, with the help of NFL Hall of Fame quarterbacks Joe Namath and Joe Theisman, did just that.

Deascanis, who is assigned to Headquarters Battalion at Henderson Hall, Arlington, Va., got the chance of a lifetime. Not only did he appear on the nationally televised NFL Kickoff Live concert with two of the greatest quarterbacks to ever play the game, but he was also able to introduce a band he liked.

"It was good to get the opportunity to represent the Marine Corps, but it was also great to introduce one of my favorite bands," said Deascanis.

Through Operation Tribute to Freedom (OTF), a Department of Defense initiative to encourage the public to show their appreciation and reinforce the bond between American citizens and the men and women of our armed forces, Deascanis was selected to represent the Marine Corps and introduce Good Charlotte, a band from Wilmington, Del., the same hometown as the corporal.

Allowing a hometown hero the opportunity to stand on stage with

some past NFL greats and current celebrities was part of the NFL and OTF efforts to salute America's military.

"When I found out about it, I didn't know that it was going to be on TV," Deascanis added. "I wasn't sure that I was going to do it, but after thinking about it, I decided that I would and I am glad that I did."

Once he committed to the concert, he then had to go through some preparation. First, there was a press conference. Reporters from around the world were in attendance as the NFL introduced performers and service members to the media.

"It was cool getting to meet them (Good Charlotte) before the press conference," said Deascanis.

The next thing for Deascanis was to rehearse the program. He had to get familiar with his lines and get over being nervous about sharing the stage with Namath and Theisman.

"I was nervous that I would get up there and let the Marine Corps down by messing up my lines," said Deascanis.

All of the practice paid off for Deascanis. When he walked out on stage to greet the crowd that included 15,000 servicemembers, he got the job done.

"I think that I did a good job once I was up there," Deascanis, who has been in the Marines for a little over two years, said.

For the corporal, meeting two legendary quarterbacks and his favorite band was an all time high, but the real satisfaction came from

simply being recognized.

"It was really great to see the military honored by the NFL," Deascanis said.

This was exactly what NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue was trying to accomplish when putting the event together.

"We were looking forward to this season's opening game in the nation's capital, which presented a unique opportunity to salute the military and other public servants," Tagliabue said in a press release from the NFL head office.

Once Deascanis was done introducing the band, he walked through the crowd back to the staging area, where to his surprise, Joe Theisman was waiting for him.

Theisman shook the corporal's hand and thanked him for serving the country. Theisman then took time to pose for pictures with the service members that were on hand backstage.

To Deascanis's disbelief, Theisman left, returning only moments later to give the jersey that he had been wearing to the corporal.

"The best part about Joe (Theisman) giving me the jersey is that he had signed it for me, I didn't even know it until I held it up," said Deascanis.

Deascanis was waiting in the backstage tent when Good Charlotte finished their set. That is where the corporal acquired his most prized possession of the evening...a Good Charlotte CD, autographed by lead guitarist Benji Madden.



Photo by Army Pfc. Andrew Hillegass

Operation Tribute to Freedom NFL Kickoff celebrity presenter, Marine Cpl. Antonio Deascanis gets an autograph from Benji Madden, lead guitarist for Good Charlotte, backstage at the NFL Kickoff Live concert at the National Mall. Cpl. Deascanis helped to introduce the band and was part of Operation Tribute to Freedom.

Sports Shorts

North lanes to rock, bowl Friday, Saturday nights

A glow-in-the-dark Rock It Bowl takes place every Friday and Saturday night from 5-11 p.m. at the north lanes. For more information, call 6-4806.

South lanes to have moonlight colorama tournament

The south bowling lanes will have a moonlight colorama tournament Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. Cost per person is \$13. Call 6-2170 for more information.

Climbing wall available for rent

Outdoor recreation rents the climbing wall for \$100 for four hours. It also has items for water sports. For more information, call 6-4141.

West Point, Texas Christian University to square off in football

West Point is scheduled to play the Texas Christian University Oct. 4 at 7 p.m. at the Amon G. Carter Stadium. Call 1-877-849-2769 or visit <http://goarmysports.ocsn.com> for tickets. Cost for tickets is \$23 for the Army section, \$11 for military group seating in the end zone and \$15 for non-group seating in the end zone. For more information call ITT at 6-2302.

South fitness center to have lunch bunch basketball

The south fitness center is scheduled to have lunch bunch basketball from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For more information, call 6-1493.

Be smart. Stay safe. Don't drink and drive.

Intramural bowling standings

Pos.	No.	Team Name	Won	Lost
1	24	363 TRS Armament	8	0
2	9	82 MSS/SVS	6	2
3	6	882 TRG	6	2
4	14	Retired	6	2
5	21	187 Med Bn	6	2
6	11	362 TRS "A"	6	2
7	4	361 TRS	6	2
8	20	364 TRS "A"	6	2
9	25	82 COMM "A"	6	2
10	7	363 TRS "Ammo"	6	2
11	16	360 TRS	4	4
12	15	365 TRS "D"	4	4
13	17	366 TRS "A"	4	4
14	28	82 SVS	4	4
15	18	362 TRS "B"	4	4
16	27	382 "BMET"	4	4
17	2	365 TRS "C"	4	4
18	1	365 TRS "B"	4	4
19	5	82 CES	2	6
20	8	80 FTW "A"	2	6
21	13	382 TRS "A"	2	6
22	19	82 CPTS	2	6
23	3	364 TRS "B"	2	6
24	10	383 TRS	2	6
25	12	82 CS "B"	2	6
26	26	80th OSS	2	6
27	22	381 Med Red	2	6
28	23	SFS	0	8

Fitness center offers classes

The aerobics center, located in the south fitness center, offers coed aerobics classes seven days a week. Call 6-2972 for more information.

Abdominal class

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11 a.m.
Monday-Friday at 8 p.m.

Aerobics

Monday at 7:15 a.m.

Step aerobics

Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 a.m.

Body pump

Tuesday and Thursday at 9:15 a.m.
Thursday and Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

Yoga and pilates

Monday and Wednesday at 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday at 5 p.m.
Thursday at 6 p.m.
Saturday at 3 p.m.

Basic step

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.

Intermediate step

Saturday at 10:15 a.m.,
Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Advanced step

Monday, Tuesday 5 p.m.

Combo step

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11:30 a.m.

Kickboxing

Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.
Sunday at 3 p.m.

Step/Floor

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9:15 a.m.

Spinning

Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m.
Monday through Friday at 4:30 p.m.
Monday at 7 p.m.



Photo by 1st Lt. Laura Renner

Pumped up

Senior Airman Erik Bensen, 366th Training Squadron, works out on the shoulder fly machine at the north fitness center. The base fitness centers offer a wide variety of weight machines, cardio machines and free weights to help Team Sheppard meet its fitness goals. The fitness centers also offer the Cardio Combat competition. Participants track their hours of exercise each week and the "Best Fit Squadron" receives a certificate and a traveling trophy. For more information, call 6-2972 or visit the south fitness center.

For
more
events
on
base,
check
out the
Services
Whirl-
wind.

Not just another fish story

Record-breaking angler builds prize-catching lures at home

By Airman Jacque Lickteig

Base public communication

The mid-morning sun peaked through the crooked mesquite tree branches, and the faint sound of trickling water from a fountain in the country yard whispered through the semi-sweet smelling air as a local angler told his story about how he caught a record-breaking striper out of Lake Arrowhead.

He explained the details of fishing, the differences of various techniques and his passion for it with enough contagious enthusiasm to make a novice want to grab a pole and head to the lake.

But even though his story was interesting enough, John Michonski, a disposal technician at the Defense Re-utilization and Marketing Office, added a little twist.

Not only did Michonski catch a 14.36-pound striped bass in May 1995, he handmade the lure he used to catch it.

Michonski started fishing when he was about 5 years old, but he wasn't very interested in it then.

"I was the one throwing rocks in the lake and scaring all the fish away," he said.

As years went by, he and his dad made fishing a regular part of their lives.

When he started fishing at Amistad Reservoir in Del Rio, Texas, he learned about slab fishing, which involves using a slab of painted lead as a lure instead of live bait.

Shortly after slab fishing became Michonski's primary method of catching fish, a friend from Midway Fish Farm, Jeff Watts, gave him a do-it-yourself mold book.

He started making them at the shop near his house as a hobby about 10 years ago, he said.

The shop, which is split in two halves, doubles as his wife's art room, which houses her paintings and art sup-



Photo by Airman Jacque Lickteig

John Michonski, a disposal technician at the Defense Re-utilization and Marketing Office, puts a split ring on a fishing lure in the shop at his home.

plies, and Michonski's lure shop.

His side is lined with assorted, brilliantly colored fishing slabs. Numerous photographs of him and his fishing buddies cover the white wall and border a stuffed version of the record-breaking striper.

Jars of paint, a lead-melting pot, scrap lead bars, tools and tackle reveal the secrets of making the lures before Michonski even begins to explain it.

The process to make the lures has changed with trial and error throughout the years, he said.

As he described them, he excitedly demonstrated each step.

First, he puts mold inserts in the molds and fills them with molten lead under a ventilation system. Then, he cuts off the sprues, which are little lead pieces that aren't part of the slab.

He hangs them up on rows of hooks to cool and raises a tray full of primer up to coat them.

The first coat of paint is added after the primer is dry. Sometimes he uses just one color by using the tray method that paints several at a time. When he uses a two-toned color scheme, he dips them one at a time halfway into a jar of paint.

After the paint dries, Michonski gives the lure the illusion of life when he puts "eyes" on them. The "eyes" are round, white circular stickers with little black dots in the center.

"Putting the eyes on is my favorite step because it transforms a painted slab of lead into something more lifelike," he said.

When the "fish" look starts to show through, he dips the slabs in a shiny sealant coating.

Then, he puts a piano-wire split ring on the tail end of it to add a hook.

"That's when I hang them up on the wall and let them sit there for a couple of years until someone buys them," Michonski said.

He now sells them for \$2 a piece to anyone who's interested, which he feels is a good price for an American-made product.

But his good heartedness outweighs his business drive. He said he sometimes gives them away to people if they've just bought a boat or just started fishing.

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Falcons sneak past Wildcats, 22-21

by 2nd Lt. Rob Arnett

Air Force Academy Public Affairs

EVANSTON, Ill. (APFN) - Nate Allen's electrifying 79-yard interception return for a touchdown sparked the Air Force Academy Falcons to a fourth-quarter come-from-behind victory, 22-21, over the Northwestern Wildcats.

"That (score) gave our football team a new life; it gave us a belief," said Fisher DeBerry, the Falcons head coach.

Free safety Larry Duncan and back Dennis Poland also picked off Wildcats quarterback Brett Basanez to give the Falcons three fourth-quarter interceptions.

The Falcons capitalized on the Wildcat turnovers to overcome a 21-7 deficit entering the final quarter of play.

Adding to the pressure of trailing the Wildcats was the loss of the Falcon's star quarterback, Chance Harridge. Harridge was ejected in the third quarter for throwing a punch after losing a fumble. He finished the game with 45 yards rushing on seven carries and 51 yards passing on two completions.

Harridge's ejection left sophomore backup quarterback Adam Fitch in command of the offense. In his first series, he led the Falcon offense on an 11-play, 80-yard drive capped off by Anthony Butler's 4-yard touchdown run.

"I thought Adam played with a lot of poise; I thought our older guys rallied around him very well," said DeBerry.

Fitch finished the day completing three passes on four attempts for a total of 51 yards.

Falcon running back



Photo by 2nd Lt. Rob Arnett

Air Force Academy Falcon quarterback Chance Harridge cuts upfield on an option play to gain some yardage.

Anthony Butler led the offense with two touchdowns. Butler rushed for 107 yards on just 12 carries, averaging nearly nine yards each time he ran the ball. He broke a scoreless tie with 3:30 left in the first quarter when he galloped 56 yards down the sideline for a touchdown after eluding two Wildcat defenders.

Butler pounded out punishing yards and gained a critical first down late in the third quarter to sustain the drive that brought the Falcons within eight points of the Wildcats. Butler also completed a 37-yard halfback pass to receiver J.P. Waller in the first half of play.

"I thought Anthony Butler

showed that he is a big-time back," DeBerry said. "When it was tough yardage, he never quit; his legs never stopped."

The Falcons went ahead for good with 2:01 left in the fourth quarter when Joey Ashcroft split the uprights with a 25-yard field goal to pull ahead 22-21. Dennis Poland's interception and return set the Falcons up with great field position for Ashcroft to kick the game winner.

The Falcon defense preserved the win by continuing the stingy play that characterized the second half, in which they only allowed seven points and forced three turnovers. Wildcat's quarterback Brett Basanez was repeatedly hurried, forced to scramble and often knocked down or sacked.

"He got knocked around as much as an option quarterback today," said DeBerry about Basanez.

Despite the Falcon victory, DeBerry said he believes his team needs a lot of improvement in the next couple of weeks before they can consider themselves a good team.

"(The number of untimely penalties) are very uncharacteristic of Falcon football. We better wake up, we better take control, and we better take charge of those types of things," DeBerry said.

Although they did not play the perfect game, DeBerry said he was thankful for the win.

"We made plays when we had to, and we won the game ... I thought our kids fought hard, and I'm encouraged about that," he said.

The Falcons return home to play The University of North Texas on Sept. 13.

Football shorts

West Point trounced in season-opener game, 48-21

Army dropped its first game of the season in a 48-21 pummeling by Connecticut.

Quarterback Zac Dahman, who took over for Reggie Nevels in the second half, passed for two touchdowns and 143 yards.

Army had just four first downs in the first half.

Nevels went 9-of-22 for 57 yards before being replaced by Dahman.

Dahman led a 62-yard scoring drive to open the second half. A 3-yard TD completion to tight end Christian Montagliani put Army on the board with 11:23 to play in the third quarter.

In the next series, Army got the ball after a successful onside kick. Dahman connected with Aaron Alexander for a 14-yard score to end an 11-play drive.

The Black Knights return to Michie Stadium next Saturday, Sept. 13, hosting Rutgers at 3:30 p.m.

Navy drops one to TCU

Lonta Hobbs ran for 79 yards and a score, as the 25th-ranked TCU Horned Frogs defeated the Navy Midshipmen, 17-3, at Amon G. Carter Stadium.

Navy (1-1) was paced in defeat by Kyle Eckel, who ran for 50 yards on 17 carries. Craig Candeto connected on 7-of-15 pass attempts for only 75 yards and an interception.

The Midshipmen mustered just 207 total yards of offense and only 3.0 yards per play, while allowing the Horned Frogs to rack up 334 yards and average of 5.1 yards per play.

Navy struck first in the contest, putting up the only points of the opening half on a 32-yard field goal from Geoff Blumenfeld.